



Alaska Department Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Solid Waste Program (Doug Huntman, Trisha Bower, and Jacob Timmons) conducted a Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), Waste Erosion Assessment and Review (WEAR) site visit for Nightmute on June 18th, 2013. The following narrative is a brief description of our findings during our June inspection.

WEAR Sites

- **AKARNG Armory, 60.479585/-164.724916 (Closed)** – This Alaska Army National Guard Armory is listed in the DEC Contaminated Sites database (File ID 2435.38.001) with status “Cleanup Complete.” It was a contaminated site due to petroleum contamination from a leak in a heating oil system recorded as early as 1998. Remediation work was performed and it was declared clean in 2013. The armory is elevated on a hill 350 feet from the Toksook River, which was reported as eroding at 3 feet per year.



- **Catholic Church, 60.478577/-164.724286 (Closed)** – This site is a DEC Contaminated Site (File ID 2435.38.005) due to petroleum contamination. There are three day tanks and two barrels included in this site. Sheen was observed in a small pool near the boardwalk adjacent to the church. The site is listed with a status of “Cleanup Complete” in the Contaminated Sites’ database as the level of contamination does not currently pose a risk to human health or the environment. The site is 80 feet from the Toksook River, the nearest source of erosion.



- **Landfill, 60.471436/-164.731179 (Active)** – Nightmute has a summer and a winter landfill. The summer landfill is the primary landfill. It is located approximately ½ mile down the Toksook River from the community on the other side of the riverbank. The site is only accessible by boat and is actively eroding into the river with over 3 feet of shoreline reported lost to erosion each year. The site is accessible by a short, wooden boardwalk from the riverbank to the landfill. Waste is spread throughout the 3 acre site with no clear working face. There is a Tok burn unit at the site that did not appear to be used by the community, which was purchased in 2006 through the Denali Commission. The winter landfill (bottom picture) is located ¼ mile north of the summer landfill. It is a tundra pond that waste is placed on top of in the winter, which then sinks into the pond during break-up. Neither site has a fence or a landfill operator. Residents self-haul waste to the sites; however, both sites are not accessible year-round due to freeze-up and break-up. Both sites are unpermitted and flood seasonally.



- **Community Tank Farm, 60.47893/-164.720837 (Active)** – This community tank farm was constructed in 2009 through a Denali Commission project. It contains a total of six fuel tanks with a total capacity of 128,000 gallons of gasoline and diesel. The City of Nightmute owns three 27,000 gallon tanks, one 10,000 gallon tank, and two 5,000 gallon tanks within a lined steel diked cell. The Lower Kuskokwim School District (LKSD) owns a self-diked 27,000 gallon diesel tank in a separate cell. The City tanks are also used for retail sales, which are operated by the Nightmute Tribal Council. It sits on a hill above the Toksook River 600 feet away.



- **School Tanks, 60.477128/-164.721696 (Active)** – This site includes four older yellow tanks upon a raised, fenced wooden platform, and one white diesel tank that is in an adjacent fenced area. All tanks are owned and operated by the Lower Kuskokwim School District (LKSD). Sheen and some stressed or dead vegetation was observed in a muddy area around the four yellow tanks. These four tanks were emptied of their contents in 2009 and are no longer in use since the construction of a new LKSD tank located at the City Tank Farm. The 4,000 gallon, white, diesel tank was constructed in 2008 and is actively in use by the school. The site is 300 feet from the Toksook River.



- **City Tank Farm, 60.480736/-164.734906 (Active)** – This site contains a total of seven fuel tanks: five red horizontal tank, one white horizontal 10,000 gallon tank, and one vertical tank. There are also around twelve barrels with unknown contents at the site. Most of the tanks are disconnected; however, some of them remained connected and could be in use. During the visit, concern was expressed of leakage toward the river. Sheen was observed at the site in a muddy area between the site and the Toksook River, which lies 50 feet away.



- **AVEC Tanks, 60.479066/-164.725941 (Abandoned)** – This site contains one vertical and one horizontal tank that were reported to belong to AVEC. Both tanks are disconnected and abandoned in place after the 2009 construction of the Community Tank Farm. There are also bags and plastic totes of contaminated soil. The bags were broken with soil spilling out, and the plastic totes were open to the elements with water pooling on top of the soil. The site is not fenced and is accessible to the public. It is located on a hillside 130 feet from the Toksook River.



- **AVEC Tank Farm, 60.479501/-164.725439 (Abandoned)** – This site contains four 10,000 gallon diesel tanks owned by AVEC. The tanks sit on a black liner that could be compromised due to vegetation growing on top. A petroleum odor and dead and stressed vegetation was observed around the tanks. The tanks were emptied of their contents and abandoned in place after the Community Tank Farm was constructed in 2009. The site is located high on a hillside 250 feet from the Toksook River near the armory building.

